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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO: ASTRX-007B  
TITLE: JOINT BRACE WITH RAPID-RELEASE SECUREMENT MEMBERS



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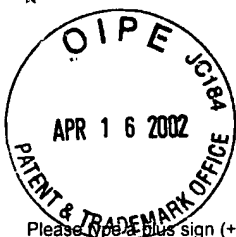
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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/067,473	
	Filing Date	February 4, 2002	
	First Named Inventor	Brad Freeman, et al.	
	Group Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	ASTRX-007B

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge Any Additional Fee Required, to Deposit Account No. 19-4330 <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Response <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69 and Accompanying Petition) <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation, Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group ( <i>Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) ( <i>please identify below</i> ):
REMARKS:		
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm or Individual Name	Stetina Brunda Garred & Brucker	
Signature		
Date	April 10, 2002	

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant(s): Brad Freeman, et al. )  
Serial No.: 10/067,473 )  
Filed: February 4, 2002 )  
For: JOINT BRACE WITH RAPID- )  
RELEASE SECUREMENT MEMBERS )  
Art Unit:  
Examiner:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the following Information Disclosure Statement is submitted as listed on form PTO/SB/08 enclosed herewith in duplicate. Copies of all disclosure documents are attached hereto for the Examiner's review, except for those noted with an asterisk (\*) which have been provided or previously made of record in parent application No. 09/771,763.

No representation is made that the references disclosed herein legally constitute prior art, or that more relevant references are not available. The disclosure documents enclosed herewith and listed on the attached form (PTO/SB/08) are printed in the English language and/or accompanied by an Abstract published in the English language.

The references listed herein, when taken alone or in combination are not believed to

disclose nor make obvious the invention as claimed in the subject application.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the stipulated three months from the filing date of the application and/or before the mailing of a first Office Action, it is believed that no fee is required. If a fee is required, please charge Account Number 19-4330.



Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 10, 2002  
Customer No. 007663

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Kit M. Stetina", written over a horizontal line.

Kit M. Stetina  
Registration No. 29,445  
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75 Enterprise, Suite 250  
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FORM PTO-1449  
(Modified)\*U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO. ASTRX-007B

SERIAL NO. 10/067,473

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

APPLICANT BRAD FREEMAN, et al.

(Use several sheets if necessary)

FILING DATE February 4, 2002

GROUP 3764

(37 CFR 1.98(b))

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	D 2 6 9 3 7 9	06/1983	Bledsoe *			
	D 2 8 4 7 0 2	07/1986	Castillo *			
	D 2 9 8 5 6 8	11/1988	Wornack *			
	D 3 1 8 7 3 6	07/1991	Castillo *			
	D 3 4 6 0 2 8	04/1994	Lengyel *			
	D 3 5 7 0 7 0	04/1995	Castillo *			
	1 3 9 0 9 1 5	09/1921	Loth *			
	2 5 3 1 4 8 6	11/1947	Weber *			
	2 8 8 3 9 8 2	04/1959	Rainey *			
	3 0 3 0 6 3 4	04/1962	Bair *			
	3 0 9 9 4 4 8	07/1963	Salvo et al. *			
	3 3 8 7 3 0 5	06/1968	Shafer *			

## FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	2 9 7 7 6 6 A	04/1989	European Pat. Off. *				
	1 4 9 1 5 6 9	07/1969	Germany *				X
	2 4 3 2 7 6 6	03/1975	Germany *				X
	8 4 0 4 2 4 0	11/1984	WIPO *				

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date\*\*, Relevant Pages, Place of Publication\*\*\*)


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EXAMINER: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformation and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Atty: Kit M. Stetina  
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(37 DFR 1.98(b))

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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	3 6 6 9 1 0 5	06/1972	Castiglia *			
	3 7 7 9 6 5 4	12/1973	Horne *			
	3 7 8 5 3 7 2	01/1974	Craig *			
	3 8 1 7 2 4 4	06/1974	Taylor *			
	3 9 0 0 8 9 8	08/1975	Kerman *			
	3 9 0 2 4 8 2	09/1975	Taylor *			
	3 9 2 8 8 7 2	12/1975	Johnson *			
	3 9 5 8 5 6 9	05/1976	Vosburgh *			
	4 1 3 6 4 0 4	01/1979	Lange *			
	4 1 6 9 4 6 7	10/1979	Rabischong et al. *			
	4 2 4 1 7 3 0	12/1980	Helfet *			
	4 2 7 1 8 3 1	06/1981	Deibert *			

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EXAMINER INITIAL	PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4 3 6 1 1 4 2	11/30/82	Lewis et al. *			
	4 3 7 2 2 9 8	02/08/83	Lerman *			
	4 3 8 1 7 6 8	05/03/83	Ericksen, et al. *			
	4 4 0 7 2 7 6	10/04/83	Bledsoe *			
	4 4 2 8 3 6 9	01/31/84	Peckham et al. *			
	4 4 8 7 2 0 0	12/11/84	Feanny et al. *			
	4 4 8 9 7 1 8	12/15/84	Martin *			
	4 4 9 3 3 1 6	01/15/85	Reed, et al. *			
	4 4 9 4 5 3 4	01/22/85	Hutson *			
	4 5 0 3 8 4 6	03/12/85	Martin *			
	4 5 2 3 5 8 5	06/18/85	Lamb et al. *			
	4 5 5 4 9 1 3	11/26/85	Womack et al. *			

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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4 5 5 9 9 9 8	07/15/88	Castillo *			
	4 6 0 3 6 9 0	08/05/86	Skeen *			
	4 6 1 4 1 8 1	09/30/86	Karlsson *			
	4 6 2 0 5 3 2	11/04/86	Houswerth *			
	4 6 2 1 6 2 4	11/11/86	Rayboy *			
	4 6 2 8 9 1 6	12/16/86	Lerman et al. *			
	4 6 6 5 9 0 5	05/19/87	Brown *			
	4 6 8 1 0 9 7	07/21/87	Pansier *			
	4 6 9 7 5 8 3	10/06/87	Mason et al. *			
	4 6 9 9 1 2 9	10/13/87	Aaserude et al. *			
	4 7 1 5 3 6 3	12/29/87	Detty *			
	4 7 2 3 5 3 9	02/09/88	Townsend *			

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	4 7 5 3 2 4 0	12/20/88	Sparks *			
	4 7 9 1 9 1 6	12/20/88	Paez *			
	4 8 0 3 9 7 5	02/14/89	Meyers *			
	4 8 5 4 3 0 8	08/08/89	Drillio *			
	4 8 5 6 5 0 1	08/15/89	Castillo et al. *			
	4 8 8 6 0 5 4	12/12/89	Castillo et al. *			
	4 9 3 8 2 0 7	07/03/90	Vargo *			
	4 9 4 0 0 4 4	07/10/90	Castillo *			
	4 9 6 4 4 0 2	Grim et al.	10/23/90 *			
	4 9 8 6 2 6 4	01/22/91	Miller *			
	5 0 6 3 9 1 6	11/12/91	France et al. *			
	5 1 2 1 7 4 2	06/16/92	Engen *			

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